

Sermon Discussion Questions: March 20th - 21st

Title: Can you see me now?

Text: John 6

Target: We can spend the rest of our lives asking for a sign all while missing the evidence that is pointing to the sign.

Getting Started: As a group, go ahead and read John 6:1-41 together and discuss what stood out to you from Pastor Ed's Sermon and how you're going to put it into action in your lives.

- I. **The Lesson from the Leftovers:** *"When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, 'This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!'"* **John 6:14**
 - A. **Jesus uses the Inconvenient:** *"Lifting up his eyes, then, and seeing that a large crowd was coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?'"* **John 6:5**
 - B. **Jesus uses the Insufficient:** *Philip answered him, 'Two hundred denarii worth of bread would not be enough for each of them to get a little.'* **John 6:7**
 - C. **Jesus uses the Insignificant:** *"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?"* **John 6:9**
 - D. **Jesus uses the Inconsistent:** *"Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds."* **Matthew 14:19/John 6:11**

Key Lesson: Nothing is useless in the hands of Jesus.

Question #1: Out of the four "I" words above - inconvenient, insufficient, insignificant, and insignificant - which of these are the most prominent to you? These words may describe how you feel about yourself, someone else, or something going on in your life right now. How does hearing that "nothing is useless in the hands of Jesus" affect your outlook on that word and situation? How can you surrender that situation or feeling to Jesus?

- II. **The Statement in the Storm:** *But he said to them, 'It is I; do not be afraid.'* **John 6:20**
 - A. **Jesus knows about the Storm:** *"When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea,"* **John 6:16**
 - B. **Jesus comes to you in the Storm:** *"It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them."* **John 6:17**
 - C. **Jesus is above the Storm:** *"When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were frightened."* **John 6:19**
 - D. **Jesus gets you through the Storm:** *"Then they were glad to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land to which they were going."* **John 6:21**

Key Lesson: Nothing is wasted in the hand with Jesus.

Question #2: After going through point number 2 together, take some time to read James 1:2-4. James reminds us that we should count the *hard* times as joy, because of what those times produce in us. Is there a storm you're going through right now in your life? What good have you seen come from it? And if you haven't seen that good yet, how can you remain faithful in this storm and how can your group help you through it? If you're not going through a storm in your

life, what's a time that you have? How did you see God use that storm, and not let it go to waste?

III. **The Confrontation that brings Clarification:**

- A. **Seeking a Sign:** *Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves." John 6:26*
- B. **Subdued by Signs:** *So, they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform?" John 6:30*
- C. **Sure Sign:** *So the Jews grumbled about him, because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." John 6:41*
 - 1. **Consumers of Jesus:** Seek Jesus only for personal gain.
 - 2. **Casual with Jesus:** Seek Jesus when it is convenient.
 - 3. **Committed to Jesus:** Seek Jesus because nothing compares to Him.

Key Lesson: Nothing is possible without hope in Jesus.

Question #3: Go ahead and read the rest of John 6 and really focus on verses 66 - 69. Peter asks "to whom shall we go?" because he knows that nothing compares to Jesus. Everyone else was casual consumers but the disciples knew that Jesus is "the Holy One of God." Take some time to individually assess yourselves and ask yourselves, "Am I a casual consumer, or a committed follower?" Discuss with your group where you see yourself slipping into casual consumption and how you can commit yourself to Jesus by reminding yourself that nothing compares to Him!

Takeaway: Biblical signs always point to the person of Jesus that proceed to lead you on a path.